

Appendix I . The Charge Letter

Professor Richard D. Hazeltine, Chair
Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee
The University of Texas at Austin
Institute for Fusion Studies
1 University Station, C 1500
Austin TX 78712-0262

August 15, 2003

Dear Professor Hazeltine:

This letter provides a charge to establish a Committee of Visitors (COV) through which the Fusion Energy Science Advisory Committee can assess matters pertaining to program decisions on a regular basis. It is our desire to have the COVs review program management every three to four years, on a rotating basis, for the following elements of the Fusion Energy Sciences program:

- Theory and computation
- Confinement innovation and basic plasma science
- Tokamak research and enabling technologies

Specifically, the committee is asked to assess, for both the National Laboratory, University and private industrial participants, the efficiency and quality of the processes used to:

- Solicit, review, recommend and document proposal actions
- Establish the consistency between award decisions and the Office of Fusion Energy Sciences' programs and goals
- Monitor active projects and programs

The committee is asked to comment on how the award process has affected:

- The breadth, quality and balance of portfolio elements
- The national and international standing of the portfolio elements

The first area that I would like you to address is the theory and computation program. You should work with the Associate Director for the Office of Fusion Energy Sciences to establish the processes and procedures for the first COV.

I believe that the COV will help us maintain a high standard of scientific research. I look forward to your feedback on how the Office of Fusion Energy Sciences is making program decisions, and how that decision process can be improved.

I would like to have a final report from you by the summer of 2004.

Orbach